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17 March 1970

Copy 1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

SUBJECT : Comments on Bulgarian Army Report in DIA Publication

1. Regarding your inquiry of 27 February 1970 pertaining to the Bulgarian Army as reported on page B-3 of the DIA Intelligence Summary dated 27 February we conclude that the only limitations that we have is the paucity of high resolution coverage over the Warsaw Bloc countries. We find that our ground order of battle holdings in the Warsaw Bloc countries are marginal, primarily because of the priorities placed on obtaining coverage in the USSR. Another limitation is the customary practice of utilizing vehicle sheds for the parking of the equipment; therefore it is difficult to obtain an equipment level for a particular installation if vehicle sheds are present.

2. We routinely receive all of the various types of supporting data, i.e., [ ] and Defector reports. Our collateral research analysts provide this type of data to the photo interpreter and in those instances where high resolution coverage is available we undertake to correlate the collateral documents with [ ] photography. The Warsaw Bloc countries lend themselves to this type of correlative analysis, the amount of data from travelers, defectors and [ ] collection far exceeding the amount of overhead coverage.

3. Based on our current manpower we estimate that we would be able to handle a 50% increase in [ ] coverage over the Warsaw Bloc countries and publish reports correlating the two sources. Attachment 1 shows the type of first and second phase reporting we are currently doing in this area.

[ ]  
Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group  
NPIC

Attachment: [ ]

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
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3/9- Sent follow-up to Dir  
3/16- same to Dir

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27 Feb 70

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~~Hand~~

Ch, IEG -

- Note the item on Bulgarian Army on p. B-3 of 27 Feb DIA Intell. Summary.

- How much insight are we able to give on such matters? For example, can we tell the whereabouts of the "additional major tank unit"? For example, can we confirm, through counting, the equipment levels indicated?

- I am, of course, querying our manpower as well as coverage capabilities -- not making any judgement yet as to what we should or should not be doing in the Center.